

Application No. 10/650,536

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REMARKS

The Applicant has amended page 9, lines 11 and 12 of the disclosure to correct numeral 56 to numeral 52.

The Examiner objected to claims 1, 4 and 6 as lacking novelty in view of Fox. The Examiner further objected to claims 1-13 and 16 as lacking novelty in view of Fox. Applicant has accordingly amended claim 1 to incorporate the limitations of previous claim 2 and has cancelled previous independent claims 11 and 20 as well as original dependent claims 2, 12-14, and 19.

The claimed invention is a leak detector for connection to an air supply. The leak detector delivers a vapour under pressure to a system for detecting leaks. The leak detector as claimed has a housing. A tank having a fluid chamber for holding a quantity of the fluid is located in the housing. A first conduit is provided for delivering air from an air supply to the fluid tank and for generating vapour in the fluid tank. A second conduit is located in the housing and transmits vapour from the fluid tank through the housing to the exterior of the housing to the system.

Fox, on the other hand, describes an apparatus for generating fog. The apparatus is coupled to an air supply. A conduit connects the air supply to the interior of the apparatus for directing air against a fluid located in the apparatus. Fluid in the Fox apparatus diffuses out of the apparatus into the environment.

The claimed invention has the advantage of being able to deliver fog under significant pressure through the second conduit located in its housing to a system to be tested for leaks. The claimed leak detector provides a high volume of vapour under pressure to a system being tested. The construction of the system having a conduit for delivering the air under pressure to a system being tested and a series of the gauges and switches provides a safe and reliable system for detecting leaks. Fox, on the other hand, does not disclose an apparatus that is appropriate for testing leaks in a closed system. The Fox apparatus does not have a second conduit for delivering vapour under pressure to a closed system. Fox merely defines a plurality of outlets 30, 36, 78 and 82 through which vapour generated in the system diffuses. The Fox apparatus is designed for generating fog on movie sets, etc. It is submitted that Fox does not teach each and every element of the claimed invention nor does it provide the functional advantages of the

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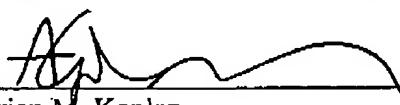
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presently claimed invention. It is therefore respectfully submitted that the claims as amended are now novel over Fox.

Favourable reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Executed at Toronto, Ontario, Canada, on February 3, 2005.

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